



4000-01-U

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Applications for New Awards; Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Language Program

AGENCY: Office of Postsecondary Education, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Education is issuing a notice inviting applications for fiscal year (FY) 2018 for the Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Language (UISFL) program, Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number 84.016A.

DATES:

Applications Available: [INSERT DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: [INSERT 50 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

ADDRESSES: For the addresses for obtaining and submitting an application, please refer to our Common Instructions for Applicants to Department of Education Discretionary Grant Programs, published in the *Federal Register* on February 12, 2018 (83 FR 6003) and available at www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2018-02-12/pdf/2018-02558.pdf.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tanyelle H. Richardson,
U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW.,
room 258-14, Washington, DC 20202. Telephone: (202) 453-
6391. Email: tanyelle.richardson@ed.gov.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf
(TDD) or a text telephone (TTY), call the Federal Relay
Service (FRS), toll free, at 1-800-877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Full Text of Announcement

I. Funding Opportunity Description

Purpose of Program: The UISFL program provides grants for
planning, developing, and carrying out programs to
strengthen and improve undergraduate instruction in
international studies and foreign languages in the United
States.

Priorities: This notice contains two competitive
preference priorities and two invitational priorities.
Competitive Preference Priority 1 is from the notice of
final priority (NFP) published in the *Federal Register* on
June 11, 2014 (79 FR 33432). Competitive Preference
Priority 2 is from 34 CFR 658.35(a).

Competitive Preference Priorities: For FY 2018, these
priorities are competitive preference priorities. Under 34
CFR 75.105(c)(2)(i), an applicant is eligible to receive an

additional two or three points depending on how well the application meets Competitive Preference Priority 1 and up to an additional two points depending on how well the application meets Competitive Preference Priority 2. An applicant may receive a total of up to 5 additional points under the competitive preference priorities.

These priorities are:

Competitive Preference Priority 1 (2 or 3 points).

Applications from Minority-Serving Institutions (MSIs) (as defined in this notice) or community colleges (as defined in this notice), whether as individual applicants or as part of a consortium of institutions of higher education (IHEs) (consortium) or a partnership between nonprofit educational organizations and IHEs (partnership).

An application from a consortium or partnership that has an MSI or community college as the lead applicant will receive more points under this priority than applications in which the MSI or community college is a member of a consortium or partnership but not the lead applicant.

A consortium or partnership must undertake activities designed to incorporate foreign languages into the curriculum of the MSI or community college and to improve foreign language and international or area studies instruction on the MSI or community college campus.

Note: We will award either 2 or 3 points to an application that meets this priority. If an MSI or community college is a single applicant, or the lead applicant in a consortium or partnership, the application will receive 3 additional points. If an MSI or community college is a member of a consortium or partnership, but not the lead applicant, the application will receive 2 additional points. No application will receive more than 3 additional points for this priority.

Competitive Preference Priority 2 (0 or 2 points).

Applications from IHEs or consortia of these institutions that require entering students to have successfully completed at least 2 years of secondary school foreign language instruction or that require each graduating student to earn two years of postsecondary credit in a foreign language (or have demonstrated equivalent competence in the foreign language) or, in the case of a 2-year degree granting institution, offer two years of postsecondary credit in a foreign language.

Invitational Priorities: For FY 2018, these priorities are invitational priorities. Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(1), we do not give an application that meets these invitational priorities a competitive or absolute preference over other applications.

These priorities are:

Invitational Priority 1--Substantive Training and
Thematic Focus on Less Commonly Taught Languages.

Applications that propose programs or activities focused on language instruction or development of area or international studies programs to include substantive training and thematic focus on any modern foreign languages, except French, German, or Spanish.

Invitational Priority 2--Developing Interdisciplinary
Curriculum.

Applications that propose to create innovative curricula that combine the teaching of international studies with one of the following academic fields of study: science, technology, engineering, mathematics, business, economics, public health, international and comparative education and computer science. Programs can be located within the applicant's home IHE or within an IHE that is part of the consortium/partnership applying for the grant.

Definitions:

The following definitions are from the NFP published in the *Federal Register* on June 11, 2014 (79 FR 33432).

Community college means an institution that meets the definition in section 312(f) of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA) (20 U.S.C. 1058(f)); or an

institution of higher education (as defined in section 101 of the HEA) that awards degrees and certificates, more than 50 percent of which are not bachelor's degrees (or an equivalent) or master's, professional, or other advanced degrees.

Minority-Serving Institution means an institution that is eligible to receive assistance under sections 316 through 320 of part A of title III, under part B of title III, or under title V of the HEA.

Note: The list of institutions currently designated as eligible under Title III and Title V is available at:
<https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/itudes/eligibility.html>.

Application Requirements:

In addition to any other requirements outlined in the application package for this program, section 604(a)(7) of the HEA, 20 U.S.C. 1124(a)(7), requires that each application from an IHE, consortia, or partnership include-

- (1) Evidence that the applicant has conducted extensive planning prior to submitting the application;

(2) An assurance that the faculty and administrators of all relevant departments and programs served by the applicant are involved in ongoing collaboration with regard to achieving the stated objectives of the application;

(3) An assurance that students at the applicant institutions, as appropriate, will have equal access to, and derive benefits from, the UISFL Program;

(4) An assurance that each applicant, consortium, or partnership will use the Federal assistance provided under the UISFL Program to supplement and not supplant non-Federal funds the institution expends for programs to improve undergraduate instruction in international studies and foreign languages;

(5) A description of how the applicant will provide information to students regarding federally funded scholarship programs in related areas;

(6) An explanation of how the activities funded by the grant will reflect diverse perspectives and a wide range of views, and generate debate on world regions and international affairs, where applicable; and

(7) A description of how the applicant will encourage service in areas of national need, as identified by the Secretary.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations in 34 CFR parts 75, 77, 79, 82, 84, 86, 97, 98, and 99. (b) The Office of Management and Budget Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) in

2 CFR part 180, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 34 CFR part 3485. (c) The Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards in 2 CFR part 200, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 34 CFR part 3474. (d) The regulations in 34 CFR parts 655 and 658. (e) The NFP published in the *Federal Register* on June 11, 2014 (79 FR 33432).

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 86 apply to IHEs only.

II. Award Information

Type of Award: Discretionary grants.

Estimated Available Funds: \$2,257,434

Contingent upon the availability of funds and the quality of applications, we may make additional awards in FY 2018 from the list of unfunded applications from this competition.

Estimated Range of Awards:

For single applicant grants: \$70,000-\$95,000 for each 12-month budget period. For consortia or partnership grants: \$90,000-\$150,000 for each 12-month budget period.

Estimated Average Size of Awards:

For single applicant grants: \$86,824.

For consortia or partnership grants: \$120,000.

Maximum Award: We will not make an award exceeding \$95,000 for a single applicant for a single budget period of 12 months, or for an applicant that is a consortium or partnership that exceeds \$150,000 for a single budget period of 12 months.

Estimated Number of Awards: 24.

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice. The estimated range of and average size of awards are based on a single 12-month budget period. We may use FY 2018 funds to support multiple 12-month budget periods for one or more grantees.

Project Period:

For single applicant grants: Up to 24 months.

For consortia or partnership grants: Up to 36 months.

III. Eligibility Information

1. Eligible Applicants: (1) IHEs; (2) consortia of IHEs; (3) partnerships between nonprofit educational organizations and IHEs; and (4) public and private nonprofit agencies and organizations, including professional and scholarly associations.

2. a. Cost Sharing or Matching: This program has a matching requirement under section 604(a)(3) of the HEA, 20 U.S.C. 1124(a)(3), and the regulations for this program in 34 CFR 658.41. UISFL program grantees must provide

matching funds in either of the following ways: (i) cash contributions from private sector corporations or foundations equal to one-third of the total project costs; or (ii) a combination of institutional and non-institutional cash or in-kind contributions including State and private sector corporation or foundation contributions, equal to one-half of the total project costs. The Secretary may waive or reduce the required matching share for institutions that are eligible to receive assistance under part A or part B of title III or under title V of the HEA that have submitted an application that demonstrates a need for a waiver or reduction.

b. Supplement-Not-Supplant: This program involves supplement-not-supplant funding requirements, which are described in section 604(a)(7)(D) of the HEA, 20 U.S.C. 1124(a)(7)(D).

3. Subgrantees: Under 34 CFR 75.708(b) and (c), a grantee under this competition may award subgrants--to directly carry out project activities described in its application--to the following types of entities: IHEs, non-profit organizations, professional organizations, or businesses. The grantee may award subgrants to entities it has identified in an approved application or that it

selects through a competition under procedures established by the grantee.

IV. Application and Submission Information

1. Application Submission Instructions: For information on how to submit an application please refer to our Common Instructions for Applicants to Department of Education Discretionary Grant Programs, published in the *Federal Register* on February 12, 2018 (83 FR 6003) and available at www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2018-02-12/PDF/2018-02558.pdf.

2. Intergovernmental Review: This program is not subject to Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR part 79.

3. Funding Restrictions: We specify unallowable costs in 34 CFR 658.40. We reference additional regulations outlining funding restrictions in the Applicable Regulations section of this notice.

4. Recommended Page Limit: The application narrative (Part III) is where you, the applicant, address the selection criteria that reviewers use to evaluate your application. We recommend that you (1) limit the application narrative [Part III] to no more than 40 pages and (2) use the following standards:

- A "page" is 8.5" x 11", on one side only, with 1" margins at the top, bottom, and both sides.

- Double space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, except titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, references, and captions, as well as all text in charts, tables, figures, and graphs.

- Use a font that is either 12 point or larger or no smaller than 10 pitch (characters per inch).

- Use one of the following fonts: Times New Roman, Courier, Courier New, or Arial.

The recommended page limit does not apply to Part I, the cover sheet; Part II, budget section, including the narrative budget justification ; Part IV, the assurance and certifications; or the one-page abstract, the resumes, the biography, or letters of support. However, the recommended page limit does apply to all the application narrative [Part III].

V. Application Review Information

1. Selection Criteria: The selection criteria for this program are from 34 CFR 658.31, 658.32, 658.33, and 655.32. The maximum score for all of the selection criteria, taken together with the maximum number of points awarded to applicants that address the competitive

preference priorities, is 105 points. The maximum score for each criterion is indicated in parentheses.

All Applications. All applications will be evaluated based on the general selection criteria as follows:

(a) Plan of operation (up to 15 points). (1) The Secretary reviews each application for information that shows the quality of the plan of operation for the project.

(2) The Secretary looks for information that shows—

(i) High quality in the design of the project;

(ii) An effective plan of management that ensures proper and efficient administration of the project;

(iii) A clear description of how the objectives of the project relate to the purpose of the program;

(iv) The way the applicant plans to use its resources and personnel to achieve each objective; and

(v) A clear description of how the applicant will provide equal access and treatment for eligible project participants who are members of groups that have been traditionally underrepresented, such as—

(A) Members of racial or ethnic minority groups;

(B) Women; and

(C) Handicapped persons.

(b) Quality of key personnel (up to 10 points). (1)

The Secretary reviews each application for information that

shows the quality of the key personnel the applicant plans to use on the project.

(2) The Secretary looks for information that shows—

(i) The qualifications of the project director (if one is to be used);

(ii) The qualifications of each of the other key personnel to be used in the project. In the case of faculty, the qualifications of the faculty and the degree to which that faculty is directly involved in the actual teaching and supervision of students; and

(iii) The time that each person referred to in paragraphs (b) (2) (i) and (ii) of this section plans to commit to the project; and

(iv) The extent to which the applicant, as part of its nondiscriminatory employment practices, encourages applications for employment from persons who are members of groups that have been traditionally underrepresented, such as members of racial or ethnic minority groups, women, handicapped persons, and the elderly.

(3) To determine the qualifications of a person, the Secretary considers evidence of past experience and training, in fields related to the objectives of the project, as well as other information that the applicant provides.

(c) Budget and cost effectiveness (up to 10 points).

(1) The Secretary reviews each application for information that shows that the project has an adequate budget and is cost effective.

(2) The Secretary looks for information that shows—

(i) The budget for the project is adequate to support the project activities; and

(ii) Costs are reasonable in relation to the objectives of the project.

(d) Evaluation plan (up to 20 points). (1) The Secretary reviews each application for information that shows the quality of the evaluation plan for the project.

(2) The Secretary looks for information that shows methods of evaluation that are appropriate for the project and, to the extent possible, are objective and produce data that are quantifiable.

(e) Adequacy of resources (up to 5 points). (1) The Secretary reviews each application for information that shows that the applicant plans to devote adequate resources to the project.

(2) The Secretary looks for information that shows—

(i) Other than library, facilities that the applicant plans to use are adequate (language laboratory, museums, etc.); and

(ii) The equipment and supplies that the applicant plans to use are adequate.

Applications from IHEs, Consortia, or Partnerships.

Applications submitted by IHEs or a consortia or partnerships will also be evaluated based on the following criteria:

(f) Commitment to international studies (up to 15 points). (1) The Secretary reviews each application for information that shows the applicant's commitment to the international studies program.

(2) The Secretary looks for information that shows--

(i) The institution's current strength as measured by the number of international studies courses offered;

(ii) The extent to which planning for the implementation of the proposed program has involved the applicant's faculty, as well as administrators;

(iii) The institutional commitment to the establishment, operation, and continuation of the program as demonstrated by optimal use of available personnel and other resources; and

(iv) The institutional commitment to the program as demonstrated by the use of institutional funds in support of the program's objectives.

(g) Elements of the proposed international studies program (up to 10 points). (1) The Secretary reviews each application for information that shows the nature of the applicant's proposed international studies program.

(2) The Secretary looks for information that shows--

(i) The extent to which the proposed activities will contribute to the implementation of a program in international studies and foreign languages at the applicant institution;

(ii) The interdisciplinary aspects of the program;

(iii) The number of new and revised courses with an international perspective that will be added to the institution's programs; and

(iv) The applicant's plans to improve or expand language instruction.

(h) Need for and prospective results of the proposed program (up to 15 points). (1) The Secretary reviews each application for information that shows the need for and the prospective results of the applicant's proposed program.

(2) The Secretary looks for information that shows--

(i) The extent to which the proposed activities are needed at the applicant institution;

(ii) The extent to which the proposed use of Federal funds will result in the implementation of a program in

international studies and foreign languages at the applicant institution;

(iii) The likelihood that the activities initiated with Federal funds will be continued after Federal assistance is terminated; and

(iv) The adequacy of the provisions for sharing the materials and results of the program with other institutions of higher education.

Applications from Public and Private Nonprofit Agencies and Organizations, Including Professional and Scholarly

Associations. All applications from public and private nonprofit agencies and organizations, including professional and scholarly associations, will also be evaluated based on the following criterion:

(i) Need for and potential impact of the proposed project in improving international studies and the study of modern foreign language at the undergraduate level (up to 40 points). (1) The Secretary reviews each application for information that shows the need for and potential impact of the applicant's proposed projects in improving international studies and the study of modern foreign language at the undergraduate level.

(2) The Secretary looks for information that shows--

(i) The extent to which the applicant's proposed apportionment of Federal funds among the various budget categories for the proposed project will contribute to achieving results;

(ii) The international nature and contemporary relevance of the proposed project;

(iii) The extent to which the proposed project will make an especially significant contribution to the improvement of the teaching of international studies or modern foreign languages at the undergraduate level; and

(iv) The adequacy of the applicant's provisions for sharing the materials and results of the proposed project with the higher education community.

Additional information regarding these criteria is in the application package for this program. The total number of points available under these selection criteria combined with the competitive preference priorities, is as follows:

Selection Criteria	UISFL IHEs	UISFL Consortia and Partnerships	UISFL Public and Private Nonprofit Agencies and Organizations, Including Professional and
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			Scholarly Associations
(a) Plan of Operation	15	15	15
(b) Quality of Key Personnel	10	10	10
(c) Budget and Cost Effectiveness	10	10	10
(d) Evaluation Plan	20	20	20
(e) Adequacy of Resources	5	5	5
(f) Commitment to International Studies	15	15	n/a
(g) Elements of Proposed International Studies Program	10	10	n/a
(h) Need for and Prospective Results of Proposed Program	15	15	n/a
(i) Need for and Potential Impact of the Proposed Project in	n/a	n/a	40

Improving International Studies and the Study of Modern Foreign Languages at the Undergraduate Level			
Sub-Total	100	100	100
Competitive Preference Priority #1 (Optional)	3	3	n/a
Competitive Preference Priority #2 (Optional)	2	2	n/a
Total Possible Points	105	105	100

2. Review and Selection Process: We remind potential applicants that in reviewing applications in any discretionary grant competition, the Secretary may consider, under 34 CFR 75.217(d)(3), the past performance of the applicant in carrying out a previous award, such as the applicant's use of funds, achievement of project objectives, and compliance with grant conditions. The Secretary may also consider whether the applicant failed to submit a timely performance report or submitted a report of unacceptable quality.

In addition, in making a competitive grant award, the Secretary also requires various assurances including those applicable to Federal civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance from the Department of Education (34 CFR 100.4, 104.5, 106.4, 108.8, and 110.23).

The Secretary, to the extent practicable and consistent with the criterion of excellence, seeks to encourage diversity by ensuring that a variety of types of projects and institutions receive funding.

3. Risk Assessment and Specific Conditions:

Consistent with 2 CFR 200.205, before awarding grants under this competition the Department conducts a review of the risks posed by applicants. Under 2 CFR 3474.10, the Secretary may impose specific conditions and, in appropriate circumstances, high-risk conditions on a grant if the applicant or grantee is not financially stable; has a history of unsatisfactory performance; has a financial or other management system that does not meet the standards in 2 CFR part 200, subpart D; has not fulfilled the conditions of a prior grant; or is otherwise not responsible.

4. Integrity and Performance System: If you are selected under this competition to receive an award that over the course of the project period may exceed the

simplified acquisition threshold (currently \$150,000), under 2 CFR 200.205(a)(2) we must make a judgment about your integrity, business ethics, and record of performance under Federal awards--that is, the risk posed by you as an applicant--before we make an award. In doing so, we must consider any information about you that is in the integrity and performance system (currently referred to as the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS)), accessible through the System for Award Management. You may review and comment on any information about yourself that a Federal agency previously entered and that is currently in FAPIIS.

Please note that, if the total value of your currently active grants, cooperative agreements, and procurement contracts from the Federal Government exceeds \$10,000,000, the reporting requirements in 2 CFR part 200, Appendix XII, require you to report certain integrity information to FAPIIS semiannually. Please review the requirements in 2 CFR part 200, Appendix XII, if this grant plus all the other Federal funds you receive exceed \$10,000,000.

VI. Award Administration Information

1. Award Notices: If your application is successful, we notify your U.S. Representative and U.S. Senators and send you a Grant Award Notification (GAN); or we may send

you an email containing a link to access an electronic version of your GAN. We may notify you informally, also.

If your application is not evaluated or not selected for funding, we notify you.

2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements:

We identify administrative and national policy requirements in the application package and reference these and other requirements in the Applicable Regulations section of this notice.

We reference the regulations outlining the terms and conditions of an award in the Applicable Regulations section of this notice and include these and other specific conditions in the GAN. The GAN also incorporates your approved application as part of your binding commitments under the grant.

3. Open Licensing Requirements: Unless an exception applies, if you are awarded a grant under this competition, you will be required to openly license to the public grant deliverables created in whole, or in part, with Department grant funds. When the deliverable consists of modifications to pre-existing works, the license extends only to those modifications that can be separately identified and only to the extent that open licensing is permitted under the terms of any licenses or other legal

restrictions on the use of pre-existing works.

Additionally, a grantee or subgrantee that is awarded competitive grant funds must have a plan to disseminate these public grant deliverables. This dissemination plan can be developed and submitted after your application has been reviewed and selected for funding. For additional information on the open licensing requirements please refer to 2 CFR 3474.20.

4. Reporting: (a) If you apply for a grant under this competition, you must ensure that you have in place the necessary processes and systems to comply with the reporting requirements in 2 CFR part 170 should you receive funding under the competition. This does not apply if you have an exception under 2 CFR 170.110(b).

(b) At the end of your project period, you must submit a final performance report, including financial information, as directed by the Secretary. If you receive a multiyear award, you must submit an annual performance report that provides the most current performance and financial expenditure information as directed by the Secretary under 34 CFR 75.118. The Secretary may also require more frequent performance reports under 34 CFR 75.720(c). For specific requirements on reporting, please go to www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/appforms/appforms.html.

Performance reports for the UISFL program must be submitted electronically into the office of International and Foreign Language Education web-based reporting system, International Resource Information System (IRIS). For information about IRIS and to view the reporting instructions, please go to <http://iris.ed.gov/iris/pdfs/UISFL.pdf>.

5. Performance Measures: Under the Government Performance and Results Act, the Department will use the following performance measures to evaluate the success of the UISFL program: percentage of UISFL projects that added or enhanced courses in international studies in critical world areas and priority foreign languages; and percentage of UISFL consortium projects that established certificate and/or undergraduate degree programs in international or foreign language studies.

6. Continuation Awards: In making a continuation award under 34 CFR 75.253, the Secretary considers, among other things: whether a grantee has made substantial progress in achieving the goals and objectives of the project; whether the grantee has expended funds in a manner that is consistent with its approved application and budget; and, if the Secretary has established performance

measurement requirements, the performance targets in the grantee's approved application.

In making a continuation award, the Secretary also considers whether the grantee is operating in compliance with the assurances in its approved application, including those applicable to Federal civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance from the Department (34 CFR 100.4, 104.5, 106.4, 108.8, and 110.23).

VII. Other Information

Accessible Format: Individuals with disabilities can obtain this document and a copy of the application package in an accessible format (e.g., braille, large print, audiotape, or compact disc) on request to the program contact person listed under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.

Electronic Access to This Document: The official version of this document is the document published in the *Federal Register*. You may access the official edition of the *Federal Register*. You may access the official edition of the *Federal Register* and the Code of Federal Regulations via the Federal Digital System at: www.gpo.gov/fdsys. At this site you can view this document, as well as all other documents of this Department published in the *Federal*

Register, in text or Portable Document Format (PDF). To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at the site.

You may also access documents of the Department published in the *Federal Register* by using the article search feature at: www.federalregister.gov. Specifically, through the advanced search feature at this site, you can limit your search to documents published by the Department.

Dated: June 1, 2018.

Frank T. Brogan,
*Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary
and Delegated the duties of the
Assistant Secretary, Office of
Planning, Evaluation and Policy
Development, Delegated the duties of
the Assistant Secretary, Office of
Postsecondary Education.*

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